



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Eastern District of Arkansas

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GRAND JURY RETURNS ADDITIONAL CHARGES AGAINST RUSSELVILLE AREA DOCTOR AND INDICTS WIFE

LITTLE ROCK – Jane W. Duke, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas, and Stuart L. Lowrey, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the New Orleans Field Division, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announced today the return of a Superseding Indictment against Dr. Randeep Mann of London, Arkansas. Mann, age 51, was charged with possessing ninety-eight grenades and two firearms, which were not registered to him in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, in violation of Title 26, United States Code, Section 5861(d). He was also charged with possessing a machine gun in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(o). The seven count indictment also charges Mann and his wife, Sangeeta “Sue” Mann, age 48, with conspiring to obstruct or impede the proceedings against Mann and with concealing some checks with the intent to impair their availability for use in proceedings against Mann. Sue Mann was also indicted for making a false declaration to the federal grand jury during its investigation of Dr. Mann. Sue Mann was arrested without incident this morning and pled, “not guilty,” before the Honorable J. Thomas Ray at a hearing for Plea and Arraignment. The United States is seeking detention of Mrs. Mann due to the fact that she is a flight risk. She will remain in custody until the detention hearing which is set for Monday, August 10th at 1:30 p.m. before the Honorable Beth Deere. Dr. Mann was previously found to be a flight risk and was detained by the Honorable H. David Young on March 10, 2009. Dr. Mann has remained in custody since his arrest on March 4, 2009. His Plea and Arraignment hearing is set for August 18, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. before the Honorable Beth Deere.

On March 4, 2009, Mann was arrested by agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives pursuant to a federal complaint issued for this same violation. According to the affidavit filed in support of the complaint, the case originated on March 3, 2009, by Pope County Sheriff’s deputies responding to a call regarding military ordinances that were found on wooded property in London, Arkansas. On that date, City of London Public Works employees discovered a partially buried plastic bag in the woods. A worker dug up the bag and discovered a military canister containing military ordinances inside. These ordinances were later determined to be high explosive rounds designed to be fired from a grenade launcher.

As part of an unrelated investigation, Dr. Mann, who lives approximately 875 feet from where the grenades were found, was interviewed on February 4, 2009. During that interview, Dr. Mann showed investigators a grenade launcher he legally owned.

Armed with the discovery of the grenades, the information regarding Mann's possession of a grenade launcher, and Mann's close proximity to the location where the grenades were found, law enforcement obtained a search warrant for his house on March 4, 2009. In the course of executing that warrant, officers found five military canisters that were the exact shape, size, and color as the canister recovered from the woods, with one of the five bearing the same lot number as the canister found in the woods. Also located during the search was a box containing 45 practice rounds of ammunition for a grenade launcher. Finally, investigators located two grenade launchers in a safe in the basement, both of which were capable of firing the grenades found in the woods.

Although not charged in the indictment, investigators also found 110 semi and fully automatic firearms in Mann's house. Investigators estimated the value of those weapons to be in excess of \$1,000,000. Investigation revealed that the majority of those weapons were lawfully registered to Mann.

The possession of unregistered firearms offenses carry a possible punishment of up to ten years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$10,000. The possession of the machine gun charge carries a possible punishment of up to ten years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The statutory penalty for the obstruction charges are up to twenty years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine for each defendant. Mrs. Mann faces a punishment of up to five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine if she is convicted of making a false declaration before the grand jury.

The investigation was conducted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, along with the Pope County Sheriff's Office, and the Arkansas State Police. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Michael Gordon and Karen Whatley.

An indictment contains only allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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